



# ALBERTA COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH FAMILY LAW PRACTICE NOTE 7 OVERVIEW & UPDATE



January 15th, 2021 1- 4 pm - Online Zoom Conference

Presented by: Dr. Stephen Carter, Registered Psychologist with Queen's Bench Justice Debbie A. Yungwirth and Rhyannon O'Heron, Lawyer



## INTENDED AUDIENCE:

This workshop is open to Registered Psychologists, Clinical Social Workers (MSW), Family Mediators, Members of the Judiciary, Family Law Bar Members, Collaborative Family Lawyers, Parenting Coordinators, and students in any of the above disciplines

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

**Upon successful completion of this course, participants should be able to:**

- Understand the purpose of Practice Note 7 and its implications for mental health professionals
- Understand the processes for evaluative and therapeutic interventions and become aware of ethical and procedural issues.
- Be aware of the continuum of interventions.
- Distinguish between each of the processes which can be used with separating and divorced families with awareness of strengths, weaknesses and limitations of each process and when their uses are indicated and contraindicated.
- Understand the principles behind writing service agreements and communicating with the Court.

## **PROGRAM FORMAT AND SCHEDULE:**

- Changes to Practice Note 7 – what is different and why it changed.
- Overview of intervention processes;
- Ethical issues;
- Risk-management issues: service agreements and communicating with the Court;
- Evaluative Interventions:
  - Triage
  - The Views/Voice of the Child
  - Parent Psychological Evaluation
  - Child/Adolescent Psychological Evaluation
  - Focused Assessment
- Therapeutic Interventions:
  - Therapeutic Intervention with One Parent
  - Therapeutic Intervention with Both Parents
  - Therapeutic Intervention with Child Only
  - Therapeutic Intervention with Parents and Children
  - Remedial Facilitated Access/Parent-Child Reunification



## **Speaker Bio: Dr. Stephen Carter, Registered Psychologist**

Dr. Carter's practice involves working with children, teens and adults in counselling and assessment. Stephen works therapeutically with divorced parents to help them reduce conflict, communicate better and to minimize the damage divorce can do to children and also conducts voice of the child evaluations and custody assessments. He has been involved advisory committees addressing changes to past and current versions of the Family Court Practice Notes 7 and 8. Steve is the author of the book "Family Restructuring Therapy" which was published in 2011 by the High Conflict Institute. Dr. Carter has worked, with presented about, families in transition for over 20 years and has delivered workshops on Family Restructuring Therapy in both Canada and the United States. Stephen has been a member of AFCC since 2000.

Please register here <https://www.afccalberta.org/events>

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